

The greatest good that can come to the individual is through buying Liberty bonds—Theodore Roosevelt

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WEATHER
Rain to-day; to-morrow probably rain and cooler; moderate north to northeast winds.
Full Report on Page 5

First to Last—the Truth: News·Editorials·Advertisements

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1918

TWO CENTS (In Greater New York and within commuting distance)

British Give Up Will Before Ypres; Strike Back to the South; Fail to Hold Gains

Wets Victors In 20 Cities; Drys Win 19

Syracuse for Saloons Despite Billy Sunday's Aid in Campaign

Women Voters Outnumber Men

Mt. Vernon and New Rochelle Are in Wet Column

The battle between the wets and drys which has been going on for two days at the polls in thirty-nine communities of the state was on its way to a nip and tuck finish early this morning, with the wets slightly ahead. They appeared to have won in twenty cities, while the drys had only nineteen.

Among the cities where the wets were victorious were Syracuse, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Ogdensburg, Schenectady, Oswego and Amsterdam. The "drys" appeared to have won in Binghamton, the home of State Senator William Hill, author of the Senate resolution to ratify the Federal amendment; in Auburn, Elmira, Cortland, Jamestown, Johnstown and Watertown.

Everywhere, the reports indicated, the feminine vote was heavy, but the women seemed to have been divided on the question in just about the same proportions that the men were. Both Mount Vernon and New Rochelle, nearly communities with a considerable number of women voters, went wet.

The Anti-saloon League claimed that the drys would carry twenty cities as a minimum, while they hoped for thirty out of the thirty-nine.

The biggest setback for the drys is Syracuse, where they put forth the greatest energy. Billy Sunday came on from Chicago and made addresses at three mass meetings. Chancellor Day, of Syracuse University, took a prominent hand in the battle, and the drys fully expected a victory. The wets after the count last night were correspondingly jubilant.

Women Voters Divided

About 90 per cent of the registered 76,600 men and women voted. The vote of the women was a bitter disappointment to the drys, who had counted on an almost unanimous dry vote from them. Returns show that the women split about 50 per cent each way on the proposition to oust the saloons and that a majority of them voted to retain the drug store and hotel licenses. Some of the districts containing a large foreign born population voted seven and eight to one for the wets, while the wards carried by the drys were by the smallest margins. Heated arguments started in some of the districts over contested ballots, and at nearly midnight in one district in the university section the workers had not started to count the ballots. The vote in the missing districts, however, will not materially affect the result.

Close Vote in Ogdensburg

The result in Ogdensburg is exceedingly close, the wets winning apparently by about 100 votes.

Middletown, Orange County, went dry, while Port Jervis, in the same county, on the other side of the Shawangunk Mountain, went wet. The wets carried Schenectady, due doubtless to the large Socialist and labor vote, the votes of the men exceeding that of the women, while in most of the cities the women exceeded the men.

Itasca went dry by a large majority. The women determined the issue. About 3,600 women voted, and it is estimated that 75 per cent of them voted dry.

The wards in which most of the men and women who are identified with the Cornell University reside went dry by large majorities, the 4th Ward beating the saloons by 504 and the 5th by 717.

Jamestown gave a very large majority for prohibition, considering the size of the city, the dry margin reaching 4,600.

The result in Watertown also was decisive, the drys winning by about 2,500.

May Contest Watertown
The liquor interests in Watertown are preparing to start an action to have the election declared illegal. They have obtained petitions from sixty soldiers, now in training camps, asking for the right to vote on the question. It is asserted by the drys that this very question was passed upon by the courts, but the wets are not deterred by this.

Drunkness the women all over the state will take credit to themselves for the dry victories, as they quite uniformly held it to be a moral issue. An argument in favor of the liquor business on economic or business grounds

U.S. Flag to Fly in Berlin—M'Adoo

EL PASO, Tex., April 17.—"There is not enough room in this great world for the German flag and the American flag, and we are going to make the American flag fly over Berlin before we get through," Secretary William G. McAdoo told the railroad men of El Paso and the southwest at a mass meeting held upon his arrival here late to-day.

"The railroads must function 150 per cent, for we are not employees of the railroad companies, but of Uncle Sam, enlisted in the great legion of liberty," Secretary McAdoo said.

He asked the men not to become impatient because of the delay in the fixing of the new wage schedule, adding that if a raise was granted to the railroad men it would be retroactive, and they would then be able to buy Liberty bonds.

Convicts Apply Tar and Feathers To Army Officer

Major Birkner, Accused of Espionage, Attacked in New Mexico Prison

SANTA FE, N. M., April 17.—Four hundred convicts in the state penitentiary this afternoon tarred and feathered and placed a rope about the neck of Major John M. Birkner, of Camp Cody, Deming, N. M., held in the penitentiary as a Federal prisoner. He is accused of violating the espionage act.

Major Birkner, who was born in Nuremberg, Germany, but who had been in the American military forces for more than thirty years, was arrested last Friday at Camp Cody, where he was an officer in the 12th Field Artillery. His home is in Lincoln, Neb. Birkner was allowed out in the prison yard for exercise with the 400 convicts. The warden knew nothing of what was going on until he heard cheering and rushed out in the yard to find Birkner stripped and covered with tar and feathers. The prisoners with hoots were leading him about the yard by a rope around his neck. Assistant Superintendent Dugan rescued him. The prisoners, evidently in accordance with a prearranged plot, had obtained the feathers from their pillows, but where the tar came from is a mystery.

Birkner is alleged to have made disloyal utterances such as "You can't beat the Dutch" and "The Germans will sink American transports as fast as they are sent over." Birkner claimed the charges were spite work by subordinate officers whom he had disciplined.

U. S. Flier Escapes When Brought Down In "No Man's Land"

Frank L. Baylies Flees To Safety Amid Fall of German Bullets

PARIS, April 17.—Frank L. Baylies, of New Bedford, Mass., a Lafayette flier and now a member of the "Stork" Escadrille, to which the famous Captain Guynemer belonged, made a thrilling escape from Germans who were pursuing him across No Man's Land, where he was obliged to come down after an aerial combat.

Baylies' machine landed about five hundred yards from the enemy's trenches. The Germans, who had been watching his descent, began peppering his machine with bullets. Baylies leaped from his plane and made all speed for the French lines. The Germans left their trenches in pursuit, keeping up a hot fire with rifles and machine guns.

Chasseurs from the French lines, witnessing the race, opened fire on the Germans, killing one and driving the rest back to their trenches. Baylies, who has some record as an athlete, sprinted on. Later he declared that never before had he covered the ground so fast as in the last sixty yards of that run home.

The French general commanding the sector personally congratulated the American soon after his arrival. Baylies, according to the official records, has brought down four German planes, and in addition one not officially recorded. Four of these machines were two-seaters. He wears the French War Cross with four palms and the Military Medal.

When Baylies offered himself for enlistment in the United States air service he was rejected because of defective vision.

Reichstag Urged to End Air Raids on Towns

LONDON, April 17.—A Reuter's dispatch from Amsterdam says that, according to advices from Berlin, during yesterday's sitting of the Reichstag Herr Geck, Socialist, suggested making an agreement with the Allies to cease aerial attacks on open towns outside the war zone.

A government representative replied that no official request hitherto had come from the Allies, but that should it be received, it would be examined by the military authorities.

When the Reichstag reassembled new taxation bills by the Bundesrat were introduced. The proposals include a spirits monopoly and beer and wine taxes.

N. Y. Canals Taken Over By McAdoo

Erie and State System To Be Operated by the Government

New Barge Lines To Aid Railroads

More Inland Waterways Will Be Commandeered in Few Weeks

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Director General McAdoo to-night ordered that the Erie and New York State Barge Canal system be taken over by the railroad administration and that a fleet of barges be constructed immediately and operated there under the direction of G. A. Tomlinson, of Duluth, Minn., to relieve freight traffic.

This is the first inland waterway whose operation under the railroad administration has been definitely decided upon as a result of the extensive investigation made by the Committee on Inland Waterways of the railroad administration. Within a few weeks, however, the Director General is expected to order several other canal systems and navigable rivers, including the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, the Black Warrior River in Alabama and several Atlantic coast waterways used actively by the railroad administration to relieve traffic on the rail lines. Construction of barges within two or three months and their intensive use in the late summer and fall is planned. Investigation now is being made of the practicability of concrete barges which, it is said, can be built quickly and cheaply.

The Director General announced that he had decided to construct as quickly as possible and put into operation a line of barges to be operated by the government on the Erie Canal.

"The barges," the announcement continued, "will be of modern construction of the most improved type and will be operated in conjunction with and as a part of the general railroad and general transportation system of the country under the control of the Director General of Railroads. This will insure the complete coordination of the Erie Canal facilities with the railroad facilities and it is hoped will greatly enlarge the available transportation facilities throughout Eastern territory."

G. A. Tomlinson, of Duluth, Minn., a man of large practical experience in lake navigation, has been appointed general manager of the Erie Canal operations, including the construction of the barges and general equipment. Under government control of the railroads and the canal there can be diverted to the canal all of the traffic that can be handled to the best advantage by water and then for storage made in the highest degree serviceable in the present situation.

Several hundred steel barges of about 700 tons of freight capacity are immediately under construction companies on the Great Lakes, and the first of these probably can be completed in five or six weeks. Each will cost about \$60,000. Most of the old equipment will not be used to any great extent. The canal system, running from Buffalo to Watertown, near Troy, on the Hudson River, is capable of carrying about 10,000,000 tons of freight a season, and probably half of that amount will be handled this year. Grain from Buffalo and coal from Ithaca and Watkins, N. Y., will be the principal commodities transported. Grain will move through the canal and down the Hudson River to New York, where it will be taken largely by the food administration's grain corporation for forwarding and transshipment to Europe. Coal will be carried from Troy and other upper Hudson terminals by rail to New England.

Ruse With Gas Shells Kills 2,000 Germans

PARIS, April 17.—The evolution of the use of gas shells has taken surprising form in the present battle. One new method is to fire heavily slowly dispersing gas shells charged with tear gas against enemy filling in the alternate spaces with quickly dissipating poison fumes. Storming attacks are then made by troops, who charge when a sufficient interval of time has been given for the light gases to rise.

The British gunners at one part of the line threw shells charged simply with a stinking composition. The Germans, after a few hours' discovery that this was non-poisonous, and began leaving aside their masks. After these shells had been fired for another twelve hours, there was a sudden change to poison gases. About two thousand Germans were caught without their masks and suffocated.

Draft to Call Men 21 Since Last June

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Senate resolution for registration of men who have reached twenty-one years of age since June 6, 1917, was ordered favorably reported to the House to-day. The registration date will be fixed by Presidential proclamation.

Haig Prepares To Keep Foe From Channel

New Positions on Shorter Lines Easier to Defend and to Supply

Loss of Territory Counts for Nothing

Germans Becoming Exhausted After Hurling 28 Divisions Into Battle

By Arthur S. Draper
[Tribune Cable Service]

LONDON, April 17.—The situation on the northern battlefield causes exceeding anxiety, but there is confidence the future will become increasingly bright. Looking at the battle from a broad viewpoint, the British line running northeast from north of Bailleul to Ypres is much stronger than it has been since the armies settled down to trench warfare over three years ago.

To prevent misunderstanding, I must add that the Germans still hold the initiative, that they are fighting for a finish, and that the battle is likely to continue desperately for some days before the Allies are out of the woods.

On the other hand, the British have shown a readiness to adjust themselves to the military exigencies without regard to the moral effect.

British Have Shorter Front

What has happened on the front of Ypres? Here the British had a salient which narrowed as the enemy advanced through Bailleul. With the loss of Bailleul the difficulty of supplying the defenders of this salient greatly increased. After holding the Ypres salient for sentimental reasons since the spring of 1915 the British attacked on July 31 last and continued the campaign until November. Against tremendous obstacles and at a heavy cost Haig's men obtained a fairly strong hold on Passchendaele Ridge. It was a campaign which many times was on the eve of a great victory, only to be balked the next day.

Now the British have fallen back to a position easier to defend and easier to supply from the Poperinghe region. Territory counts not at all now. Positions mean everything. The British have a shorter front and can now defend the Channel ports with increased ease. Their retirement was conducted in order, and skillfully, and the German claims in this region must be read in the light of the facts stated above.

Germans Exhausting Themselves

Ludendorff has hurled twenty-eight divisions against the British since the opening of the Battle of Arras, and though they were the pick of his storm troops nature apparently has been kind to him. The tired, battered, straggled British defenders have not sacrificed themselves in vain, for they served as a wall against which the Germans slowly but surely are exhausting themselves.

No army in history has stood the hammering of the British line has undergone. Several times Haig's line has been pierced, it has been broken, but always the line has been repaired and the flood stayed.

A year ago General Plumer, who is now holding the enemy along the western slope of Messines Ridge, was directing the sweep of the same place which resulted in the capture of 14,000 prisoners and was the most successful single offensive undertaken by any British general.

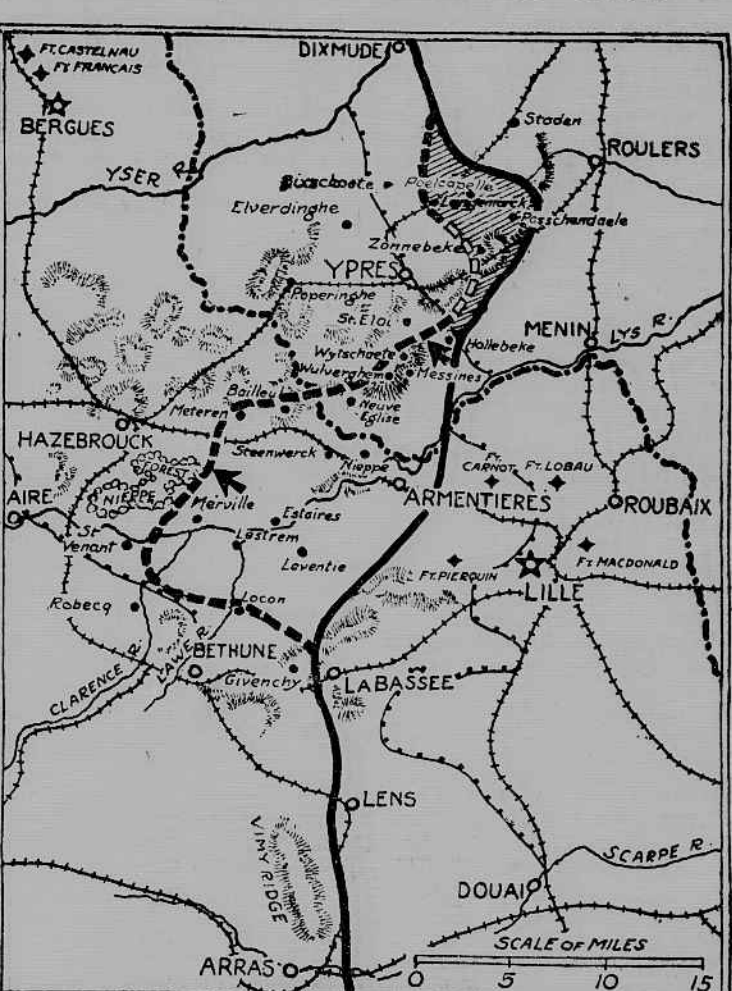
Three years ago, in the Ypres region to the north of the British, and especially the Canadians, were making their famous stand, though waves of gas swept over them, which saved the Channel ports.

Ludendorff has abandoned the tactics of 1914, which called for a good deal of energy in crossing the Yser, and has adopted the plan of 1915. History is repeating itself, the blood-soaked country of Flanders is being drenched afresh, and the British, with the French, are now making a stand along a line stronger than that which they held in 1915.

The German success probably exceeded the enemy's expectation, just as the Amiens campaign proved a considerable disappointment, neither has the result been a decisive one, though there is justification for a feeling of relief, though the morrow may contain many anxious moments.

From Merville southeast to Givenchy, the strongest position on the British line, the situation continues satisfactory and a powerful attack is being repulsed.

THE WITHDRAWAL BEFORE YPRES



In consequence of German gains to the south the British have given up the shaded area east and northeast of Ypres. The new line is shown by the row of rectangles, the part indicated by hollow rectangles being uncertain.

The Germans attacked on a fifteen-mile front between the two arrows on the map yesterday, taking Meteren and Wytschaete a second time. The solid line is the front before the offensive.

General Haig Is Fighting A Waterloo, Says Maurice

British Army Terribly Hammered, but Another Blucher Is Marching to Battlefield and There Is No Reason to Despair, Declares Military Expert

(By The Associated Press)
LONDON, April 17.—Regarding the war situation from a broad point of view, there is no reason to despair, Major General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British War Office, said to-day. After describing the events of the last twenty-four hours, he continued:

"What of the whole battle situation? Our army has been going through a very severe strain, and that strain has been reflected at home. The situation has had its critical moments and still is decidedly anxious. But remember we have accepted the principle of a united front and must accept the consequences of that principle. We must look at the whole battle not from our army's sacrifices and sufferings, but from the standpoint of the whole Entente."

"The British army is playing the role which it often has played before. It is fighting a Waterloo while Blucher is marching to the battlefield. Multiply the Battle of Waterloo a hundred-fold and the situation at noon in that battle corresponds to the situation now in the great world battle."

No Reason to Despair

"The British army is under a terrible hammering, but providing we stand that hammering without breaking, and providing Blucher is marching to the battlefield, there is no reason for discouragement."

"The enormous task which the British army has performed and still is performing may be shown by a few figures. In this battle of Arras the Germans thus far have engaged twenty-eight divisions, and since March 21 they have engaged 126 divisions. "Of these the British army alone has engaged seventy-nine, the French alone have engaged twenty-four and the remaining twenty-three, have been engaged by the British and French together."

"Of the German divisions which the British engaged, twenty-eight have been fought twice and one thrice. Of the German divisions which the French engaged, four have fought twice. Of the German divisions which the French

British Lose 15 Ships in Week

LONDON, April 17.—The losses to British shipping by mine or submarine in the last week totalled fifteen, according to the Admiralty report to-night. Eleven of the merchantmen sunk were 1,600 tons or over, and four under that tonnage. One fishing vessel also was sunk.

Twelve vessels were unsuccessfully attacked. The arrivals numbered 2,211; sailings, 2,466.

In the previous week only six British merchantmen were sunk by mine or submarine, four of them of more than 1,600 tons. This was next to the lowest weekly record made by the U-boats since February 1, 1917.

French Now Are Fighting With English In the North

German Assault on 15-Mile Front Forces Straightening of Haig Line

Belgians Repel Heavy Attack

British Recapture Wytschaete and Meteren, but Are Ousted by Terrific Pressure

Overwhelming German pressure brought the enemy fresh successes on the great battlefield of Flanders yesterday. Not only were gallant French counter attacks fruitless on the northern flank of the German salient and against Messines Ridge, but to the north Haig's forces were forced to relinquish virtually their entire gains of last year, including the Passchendaele sector, which they won step by step at enormous cost.

The Germans now hold Langemark, Poelcapelle, Passchendaele, Gheluvelt and Beclere. Before a sullen British retirement they marched into this wide strip of territory, not fighting, but suffering from a galling British fire. London announces that some of the accompanying detachments were "destroyed."

From Messines Ridge westward the British also failed to recover ground. For a few hours Tuesday night the tired defenders were nerved to fresh efforts and swept back up the lost ridge and into the town of Wytschaete. But the strength of German numbers forced them out again.

The same story was repeated at Mestren, which the British reconquered, only to lose it. A furious German attack on a fifteen-mile front from beyond Wytschaete to the Nieppe Forest flung the British back to the line they stood on Tuesday.

But the French who were moving to Haig's support "rapidly and in great strength" have arrived. Berlin reports the French counter attacking beside the British. The Germans started a new operation against the Belgian front between Le Blankaert Pond and the Ypres Railway (a five-mile front), and forced themselves into the defending outposts. Counter charges restored the Belgian line and yielded 600 German prisoners.

Since the opening of offensive operations on March 21, General F. B. Maurice announced, the Germans had used in battle 126 divisions, of which 79 had been thrown against the British, 24 against the French and 23 against combined Anglo-French forces. Correspondents yesterday put the total German strength in the West at 202 divisions.

German Casualty Lists Own Answer to Their Gains on Map

OTTAWA, April 17.—"The last twenty-four hours have been anything but a good time for the enemy," says the Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters, in a dispatch filed to-day. "Ludendorff is doubtless telling the Germans to look at the map. The answer is: Tell them to look at their casualty lists. "Our shortening of the Passchendaele salient, and the giving up of the ground won last autumn, has not been in vain, since it played a large part in wearing out the enemy, the